

City of Redmond Parks and Trails Commission

Redmond City Hall
Council Conference Room
Thursday, April 7, 2016

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Parks & Trails Chair and Vice Chair Present

Chair Aaron Knopf

Commissioners Present

Tom Sanko
Heather Sheffer
Gary Smith
Shailee Jain

Commissioners Absent and Excused

Vice Chair Cherkis
Gregg Gottgetreu
Tanika Kumar Padhye
Nicholas Lee

Staff Present

Carolyn Hope, Parks & Cultural Services Division Manager
Dave Tuckek, Park Operations Division Manager
Teresa Kluver, Park Operations Supervisor
Sharon Sato, Parks Planning & Cultural Arts Office Coordinator

I. Call to order/Welcome

Chair Knopf called the meeting to order welcoming fellow commissioners, guests, and staff members.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Sheffer to accept the April agenda
Second by Commissioner Smith
Motion carried: 5-0

Approval of Minutes - March

Motion by Commissioner Sheffer to approve the minutes

Second by Commissioner Jain

Motion carried: 5-0

II. Items from the Audience

None

III. Introduce Maxine Whattam, New Parks & Recreation Department Director

Ms. Hope introduced Maxine Whattam the City of Redmond's new Director of Parks & Recreation. Ms. Whattam was formerly the Director of Parks and Recreation in Kennewick, Washington, where she had worked for 24 years. Ms. Whattam has had extensive experience in parks, recreation, park facilities maintenance and planning. Ms. Whattam has worked extensively with the School District, Army Corps of Engineers, and the Native American Tribe.

IV. Briefing on the Proposed Code Changes to Marijuana Zoning as related to Parks, Trails, and Recreation Centers – Jason Rogers

Jason Rogers, Long Range Planning, gave a brief review regarding the Retail Marijuana Code Amendments and the implications pertaining to parks and trails and recreation centers.

Background

- I502 – passed in 2012
- 58% of Redmond voters approved legal possession of marijuana
- State Liquor Board in charge of implementing laws related to marijuana and marijuana practices – licensing
- First stores open 2014
- Liquor and Cannabis Board - 2015 – changed the law – changed where buffers located – taxation – got rid of old medical marijuana laws and integrated with retail marijuana system
- Redmond adopts zoning regulations for retail marijuana stores – DT, Overlake, general commercial zones (along Redmond Way, east of SR520, Celtic Bayou)
- Marijuana processing allowed in – manufacturing parks, business parks and like zones
- State laws – restricts marijuana stores (sensitive use areas) - 1,000 foot buffers to schools, parks, daycares, recreation centers, transit centers

Technical Committee Recommendation

- Allow stores in portions of manufacturing zones
- Continue to allow in General Commercial zones
- Maintain 1,000' buffers from sensitive uses

- Not allows in other zones

Technical Committee Objectives

- Allow retails marijuana stores in Redmond
- Minimize impacts from retail marijuana stores
- Address public safety
- Continue to maintain vibrancy in Urban Centers

Planning Commission Discussion

- Use statutory basis for regulations
- Consider if a change in zoning is warranted
- Suitability in Urban Centers
- Suitability of all other zones
- Take into consideration public input
- What uses should be buffered and to what extent
- Separation and number of retail stores
- Revisit again in five (5) years

Planning Commission Recommendation

- Allow retail marijuana stores in MP zones – not in DT, Overlake or GC zones
- 1,000' buffer – playgrounds, schools, other educational facilities (DigiPen or like)
- 250' buffer – daycares, recreation centers, etc...and privately owned recreation businesses (possible public hearing)
- 1,000'. buffer – between stores (spread stores out, not concentrated in one area)
- No buffers from trails – trails user tend to be in transit – commuter oriented – COR does not own all trails (Sammamish River Trail)
- Limit – two (2) stores (possible public hearing)
- Revisit again in five (5) years

Parks & Trails Implications

- Public parks and public playground require buffer
 - 1,000' – playgrounds
 - 100' to 1,000' – parks without playgrounds (can be adjusted)
- Trails explicitly exempt from buffers
- Public use concerns

Schedule and Next Steps

- April 12 – CC Study Session
- CC to determine next steps
- Feedback to CC

Commission consensus should be directed to City Council. Commission discussion.

V. Green Redmond Update – T. Kluver

Ms. Kluver gave a brief background:

- 2007 - Partnership between City of Redmond, citizens volunteers, and Forterra
- 2008 – baseline data
- 2009 - implemented program focused on forested parkland
- 1,035 acres of forested parkland
- Goal – to bring into active management through the removal of invasives, planting native plants, and 20- year plan
- 17 forest stewards at 8 Redmond parks
- 1,361 trees planted
- 2,650 shrubs, wetland emergent, other small plants (to maintain healthy forests)
- 245 football fields worth
- 857 volunteers = 3,614 hours (1,500 more hours than 2014)
- 70% increase in volunteer hours from 2014
- 55 volunteer work parties
- Redmond 3rd Green Redmond Day
- Corporate grants – matching funds

www.GreenRedmond.org

Commissioner Smith proposed that the Park Ambassador Program be aligned with the Green Redmond program or be dissolved.

The Tree Canopy Program is aligned with the Green Redmond Program.

Ms. Kluver commended Forterra for their excellent contribution(s) to the Green Redmond Program.

VI. Project Updates

A. Smith Woods Pond Rehabilitation – Sanders

Ms. Sanders gave the commission a brief update:

- 2009 - Update on Master Plan (Westside parcel)
- 2 parcels
- Trail, gathering spots, kids play
- Volunteer of neighbors
- Unpaved road and trail to site
- Purchased 5 additional acres
- Westside – passive park
- Flooding from new development
- Leon Hussey – planted trees and assisted in digging the pond

- November 2015 – Stormwater survey streams and creeks
- Found two sinkholes and extreme soil saturation
- Reduced water depth in pond by three feet to alleviate pressure on existing berm
- This summer, create an interim response (creating a temporary/permanent channel, deeper, stone lined bottom, getting rid of plastic) – Park Ops, WCC Group and Natural Resources
- Pond is currently 3' to 4' deep
- Piggyback on Watershed Restoration Plan (Natural Resources) for overall basin
- Restore pond and restore to stream channel
- Timing – DOE and Army Corps of Engineering permits (5-year life once issued)

B. Bike Park Work Parties – Shaw

Mr. Shaw gave a brief update on the Bike Park:

- Launched the 2016 season - first year since development of Bike Park
- Trail stewards working on park with volunteers with staff support
- Re-worked bike jumps – Big Berm
- 2016 – program change – rework schedule – Standing work party (3rd Saturday if each month – now through Autumn)
- First Work Party of 2016 – Saturday, April 16, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (tools provided)

Mr. Shaw invited Commissioners to the Work Party event.

C. Community & Aquatics Center Stakeholder Group Update – Whattam

Director Whattam gave an update on the Community & Aquatics Center Stakeholder Group Meeting. The group has been working with staff to stay within the original master plan, and take into account potential impacts from the Lake Washington School District Bond (staffing perspective – program and cost analysis), directive(s) from Commission from master plan, updating and development of work plan, development of stakeholder listings (by categories) and future direction (what does the community want and what will they support). Currently staff is working on the work plan and a revised timeline will be coming to the Commission as the project progresses. Ms. Whattam added that the development of the external stakeholders listing will be divided per categories – building, user groups, individuals, programming, sponsors, and potential partners.

Ms. Whattam stressed that the key is the development of the engagement messaging, methods, consistency (messaging and path), and frequency. Each milestone will be brought before the commission. She added that another important component is to find third party support and facilitation from an external source – consulting firm. Ms. Whattam added that there would be a transition plan (cost and program analysis from Recreation) and community center plan.

Ms. Whattam asked commissioners to email anyone they feel would like or be interested in being part of the stakeholders group (ssato@redmond.gov).

Commission conversation.

D. Other

None

VII. Budget Update – Hope (PP)

- **Overview of Parks Budget Offer Structure – Budgeting by Priorities (BP)**
Ms. Hope gave a brief update on the status of the Budgeting by Priorities process. Staff is currently writing offers and strategizing on how to write effective offers.

What is BP

- Biennium budget began in 2008
- 6 Priorities – Vibrant Economy, Clean and Green, Diver and Connected Community, Infrastructure, Responsible Government, and Safety
- City-wide engagement to find out if these are still priorities for the community

Purpose

- Communicate with public regularly – transparency about the process
- Clarity about purpose – what and why we are asking for
- Performance Measurement – reporting back to community and Council
- Results that are important to the community

Offers Are

- Activity/set of activities that help achieve outcome
- Proposed by one or more departments
 - Response to a Request for Offers
 - Focused on outcomes that benefit community

Narrative Requirements

- Description – activity or widget? – Best interest to support program? – Who are we serving? – How do we measure success?
- Logic Model – describes value proposition for the offer, series of steps/measure describes outcomes, supporting data, one model per offer

Parks & Recreation Offers

- Five (5) offers
- Topics
 - Recreation Programs – Arts & Events – Creating Public Places – Urban Forestry – Park Operations

Schedule

- Significant Public Hearings – Budget and CIP
 - June 21st, October 18th, November 15th

- December 6 - City Council Adoption – 2017 & 2018 Biennial Budget

VIII. Parks and Trails Commission Talk Time

- Recap of Public Meeting for PARCC Plan – Hope/Shaw (Handout)

Chair Knopf gave a brief recap of the public meeting. Mr. Shaw reported on the data he had collected from the meeting (data will be collected through April 20):

- First time format
- 26 citizens – in person
- 14 citizens – registered for the online meeting – 10 streamed

Commission comments:

- Commissioner Sheffer – excited about new meeting format (technology wise)
- Commissioner Sanko – everyone was in tune with the technology aspect

Commission discussion.

- Youth Summit – Smith

Commissioners Smith and Jain attended the Youth Summit. Smith reported that the event was well organized; in attendance were the mayor and two councilmembers; the theme was “Stress”. Commissioner Jain stated that topics were great, but topics should be geared what they could do with their small amounts of money.

Commissioners discussed recruitment of new Youth Advocates and topics that would be meaningful to students.

- Retreat Dates and Agenda

April 24, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location to be announced

9:00 a.m. to noon = field trip (Smith Woods, Farrel-McWhirter (new restroom and Mackey Creek), Martin Park, Conrad Olson, Perrigo (sports field - turf)

Noon to 3:00 p.m. = meeting (Topics - Commission ordinance, commissioners role, opportunities, role of city, staff roles, operating procedures, Roberts Rules, public records and online meetings, projects (regulatory aspects).

Email Chair Knopf to add topic ideas.

- National Trails Day Event

Redmond Watershed Preserve

Resurfacing – Concrete Trail

June 4, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Park north end of Watershed
Tools provided.

Mr. Shaw asked commissioners to RSVP on the city's website.

- July Meeting
July regular meeting cancelled in lieu of Teen Feed.
- Marijuana Presentation – Chair Knopf
Chair Knopf inquired if any commission members had comments or strong feeling about Mr. Roger's presentation.

No comments.

Any discussion will take place at the April retreat.

IX. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Sanko
Second by Commissioner Jain
Motion carried 5-0

Next Regular Meeting

May 5, 2016
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Council Conference Room
Redmond City Hall